

What is claimed is:

1. A recombination cassette comprising

a promoter/enhancer region;

a polynucleotide of interest;

5 a polyA signal domain;

an FRT recombination domain; and

a *dhfr* polynucleotide,

wherein the promoter/enhancer region, the polynucleotide of interest and the polyA signal domain are operably linked.

10 2. The recombination cassette of claim 1, wherein the promoter/enhancer region comprises a human CMV immediate early 1 (hCMV IE1).

3. The recombination cassette of claim 2, wherein the hCMV IE1 promoter/enhancer region comprises a sequence as set forth from about  $x_1$  to about  $x_2$  of SEQ ID NO:1 or 2, wherein  $x_1$  is a nucleotide from position 1 to position 70 and  $x_2$  is a nucleotide from position 770 to position 780.

15 4. The recombination cassette of claim 1, further comprising a variable length intervening sequence (VLIVS) comprising a splice donor site and a splice acceptor site.

5. The recombination cassette of claim 4, wherein the VLIVS comprises an 20 intron A of a hCMV IE1 gene.

6. The recombination cassette of claim 4, wherein the VLIVS comprises an intron A of a hCMV IE1 gene that has a deletion between the splice donor site and splice acceptor site of the intron A.

25 7. The recombination cassette of claim 6, wherein the VLIVS comprises a sequence from about  $x_3$  to about  $x_4$  of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein  $x_3$  is a nucleotide from 770-780 and  $x_4$  is a nucleotide from 1300-1310 of SEQ ID NO:1; or from about  $x_5$  to about  $x_6$  of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein  $x_5$  is a nucleotide from 770-780 and  $x_6$  is a nucleotide from 1300-1310 of SEQ ID NO:2.

8. The recombination cassette of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide of interest encodes a therapeutic agent.
9. The recombination cassette of claim 1, wherein the polyA signal domain comprises at least 100 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:3.
- 5 10. The recombination cassette of claim 9, wherein the polyA signal domain comprises SEQ ID NO:3.
11. A recombination vector comprising a recombination cassette of claim 1.
12. The recombination vector of claim 11, further comprising a second promoter/enhancer region;
- 10 a second polynucleotide of interest; and a second polyA signal domain, wherein the second promoter/enhancer region, the second polynucleotide of interest, and the second polyA signal are operably linked.
13. The recombination vector of claim 12, further comprising an intervening domain between the second promoter/enhancer region and the second polynucleotide of interest.
14. A host cell comprising a recombination vector of claim 11.
15. The host cell of claim 14, wherein the host cell is adapted for growth in suspension.
- 20 16. The host cell of claim 14, wherein the host cell is adapted for growth in serum-free medium.
17. The host cell of claim 15, wherein the host cell is adapted for growth in serum-free medium.
18. A host cell comprising a recombination cassette of claim 1.
- 25 19. The host cell of claim 18, wherein the host cell is adapted for growth in suspension.

20. The host cell of claim 18, wherein the host cell is adapted for growth in serum-free medium.
21. The host cell of claim 19, wherein the host cell is adapted for growth in serum-free medium.
- 5 22. A recombination system comprising:
  - a recombination cassette of claim 1; and
  - a host cell comprising an FRT site.
23. The recombination system of claim 22, wherein the host cell is a CHO cell.
24. The recombination system of claim 23, wherein the CHO cell is a CHO-DG44
- 10 cell.
25. The recombination system of claim 22, wherein the host cell is adapted for growth in suspension.
26. The recombination system of claim 22, wherein the host cell is adapted for growth in serum-free medium.
- 15 27. The recombination system of claim 22, wherein the host cell is derived from a CHO-DG44 cell.
28. The recombination system of claim 22, wherein the host cell is dhfr<sup>-</sup>.
29. A kit comprising a vector of claim 10 and a host cell comprising an FRT site.
30. The kit of claim 29, wherein the host cell is a dhfr<sup>-</sup> CHO host cell, the genome
- 20 of which comprises an FRT site.